Students Name:

Professors Name:

Course:

Date:

Literature

**Question 1:**

1. The five major objectives of reading strategies are as follows:

(1) Reading for information and knowledge:

(2) Gaining new ideas, knowledge, and concepts.

(3) An appreciation for how words create tone, mood, setting and sound.

(4) An appreciation for the skills and techniques it takes to write a good story.

(5) More vocabulary and better spelling

2. My selection, (from the list at the end of Chapter 3 on pages 108 111.)

· A Wrinkle in Time

· Eleanor and Park

· Hunger Games

· The Outsiders

· The Hobbit

3. For each, I have chosen these particular books because they are a great way to meet the objectives. I have also picked what I feel as a parent and a teacher are books that will be enjoyable to a 9 year old student.

A Wrinkle in Time is an excellent story that discusses the main idea that there is a world beyond our own. I have read this book twice and have guided students through it to insure that they follow the story line. This is one of a series of books and has been on award lists.

The Hobbit has been recognized by award lists and by the Mid- Missouri reading Council as a quality read for elementary students. Some of the more accurate readers have said that "the real story of the hobbit is about friendship, courage, compassion and loyalty. I have read this story to children the age of the hobbit and they have found the story captivating and filled with stories of courage and sacrifice.

Hunger Games is an award winning book.  It is a good read. The book is a complete series. The idea in this book is the importance of getting away from the effects of violence through its horrible symptoms. A quote from the book states that it is important to avoid killing, torture and starvation out there.  This book relates to the idea of avoiding violence.

Eleanor and Park is a book on the award list and has been recognized as very good book that would accomplish the objective of the appreciation for the skills and techniques it takes to write a good story .

The Outsiders is an award winning book.  It is a good read.  I wanted students to understand the importance of the ideas found in this book.  I wanted them to apply the ideas to their own lives in a memorable way.

I want my students to learn grammar structure and words they might not understand and how they fit into the story.  I want my students to be able to write a story, four paragraphs.  I have chosen a book that is on the award list, has many awards and has been recommended by a professional journal.  I have chosen a book that has many awards for exceptional level of literary art.  I have chosen the title I hated to read in ninth grade and have now changed to be a very enjoyable book for my students to read. I have chosen a book that is a historical fiction and will help them understand the origin of slavery in our country.

**Question 2:**

My book is Rubber Boy by Lois Middlebrook. This story tells about school and adventure. The book tells about a boy named Kinsey who was a character who never gave up his dreams and had a great attitude to life. This is a nice book for kids and tells you to never give up on something you want to do. In addition, it provides frameworks that a person can undertake to reach his dreams if he really wants. This book is full of mystery, adventure , plot twists and inspiring messages on how life could be thus making it more desirable to be read in schools. I recommend it because it teaches how to face and get rid of fears, taking responsibilities, never giving up and standing up to bullies. I believe that this book is great for all people it doesn’t matter the age. The element of this book I really like is the fact that no matter what the character has gone through, he never gives up and that is one motiff which this story has. It tells the reader what you can achieve if you never give up even if you have gone through the worst situations of your life.

**Question 3:**

**Accessibility:** i.e. is a text difficult/frustrating to read? Does the text include content which is relevant to the student, such as details about a book or about the author or historical information which will intrigue the student? Therefore, it is essential to locate a variety of books that are appropriate for all ages of students. Moreover, I would try to find books that have won awards for being well-written and plot driven. Nevertheless, give students time to access books they find to be more accessible. Students will have to spend more time on a book before they will try to read it.

**Readability:** i.e. is a book easy to read? Does the text include content which is audience appropriate, (such as themes and/or characters which are suitable for the student)? Therefore, I would give the students an opportunity to see the inside of the books. If a student is looking for a book to read for the first time, I would give the student the opportunity to first check out the book's cover and the inside of the book before asking the student to read the entire book. Additionally I would give the students enough time to examine the book. On the other hand, I would allow students to begin reading the books they find. If a student is not interested in the book, I would let the student know that they can just browse through it and not have to finish it.

**Interest and reader response:** i.e. can you put a book you like into the text and if so, how could you do this? What makes this book an interesting read for you? Therefore, I would encourage students to read the books which will appeal to them. If a student has no interest in a book, I would try to get them interested in other books which are shorter and easier to read.

**Question 4:**

There are several reasons to use multicultural literature with children. Literature helps provide values and benefits to readers. I agree with these values and benefits stated in the handbook. I will now tell you why I think these values are important and how this applies to literature and the future of our children.

The first value is Perspective. The Handbook says "Literature offers stories that reflect the lives and views of people of many cultures, ethnic groups and religions. Discussing literature helps expand children's views of others." (NCTE, 1994). Which I agree emphatically with these statements.

The second value is religion. The Handbook also states that "Religion plays an important role in every culture. Even though some cultures may not have much faith, each contains aspects of spiritual beliefs.". I agree that if a student reads a book about a different religion and they do not believe in that religion, they may not be open to other ideas.

In the Handbook, there is another value stated. It speaks of "Building ... a global community." (NCTE, 1994) "The sense of belonging to one cultural group and the experience of discrimination in another". This is a strong part of my children's backgrounds. They have never been taught to think outside the circle of people who are like them. Ethnicity is a very important part of our lives. It is important to feel that you are from somewhere. I agree with this. However, there are other cultures and ethnicities that they have never been exposed to. Even when they lived in Japan, they only lived in a small community of other Americans, Chinese and some Korean cultures. There was not much diversity. It is important to help children understand that there are other family structures, other ways of doing things, other viewpoints on life and that this should be valued diversity.

**Question 5:**

The Color of Friendship by Steve Stanchfield is a book about friendship. In the beginning of the book, the boy is told to find his own way of learning a new word. He meets new friends and learns work, play, and school all at the same time. I like this book because it tells about friendship, about meeting new friends and about being friendly to others. I know that learning new words is fun, but I think it’s more fun to learn about friends and play with them. There is also an exciting part when the boy has to choose between playing with his friends or playing by himself. I would recommend this book to my friends, because they might enjoy learning about new friends and making new friends. I would describe this book as daring, exciting, and adventurous.

Katchafire by Tonya Bolden is a book is about a girl and a boy who are very different from each other. The only way they can be friends is if they pretend they are different people and do things that they both like. I think that this book is a really good because it has action, interesting characters, and life lessons.

The Giver by Lois Lowry is book that illustrates a story about a boy who is chosen to be the Receiver of Memory. The boy helps the Elder to learn about their past, Aaron. He then learns about their past from the Elder. He learns about pain, suffering and death. He also learns about good and joy. If anyone in the community will be chosen to be the next Receiver of Memory, then they will be responsible for keeping the memories. I think that this book is a really good because in taught me a lot of things. I learned how life was in the past. It also taught me about happiness, joy and what pain is.

**Question 6:**

1.Setting can help us develop characters. By putting the characters into a different environment, we can see their true colors, see how they act and react, and see how they get along with others. In Monster, by Walter Dean Myers, the main character is Ty, a young black teenager living in Harlem who is arrested and spends two trials in jail. Setting provides the character with a way of coping. Another example is in the novel, The Hunger Games, by Suzanne Collins, the main character, Katniss, lives in District 12, which is surrounded by 'the barrier', where it is hard to get food, since all of the food is shipped from other districts.

2.Setting can help us understand the plot. In the book, A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens, the author chose to write a story that takes place in London in the 1800s. By doing this, he caused many problems for the protagonist of the story, Ebenezer Scrooge, and forced him to change. It shows how different the story would have been if the setting was different. It also shows how the setting is an important element of the story. The Star Wars movie has a lot to do with this as well. It also has characters dealing with a different world, complete with different planets.

3.Setting can help us understand the theme. In the book, The Summer of My German Soldier, by Bette Greene, the setting reflects the theme. The apartment complex is surrounded by woods, which adds to the isolation of the family and adds to the mystery of the missing daughter.

4.The setting influences the way the character and others act and feel. The characters in Man on Fire, by A.J. Finn, react to the world in different ways because of their religious upbringing and the nature of their work. In Snow Falling on Rosemary, by Thomas Keneally, the setting builds up sympathy for the main character and makes the story believable.

Bibliography

NCTE's Brochure (1994). School Library Media Handbook-A Framework for Library Instructional Programs in Schools